



California Livestock Review

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CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 530 thousand head on March 1, 2007, 2 percent below last month and 4 percent below March 2006. During February, placements of 60.0 thousand head were 5 percent below the previous year. Marketings of 67.0 thousand head were 20 percent above February of 2006. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 4 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.6 million head on March 1, 2007. The inventory was 4 percent below March 1, 2006, but 4 percent above March 1, 2005.

Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.66 million, 4 percent above 2006 and 9 percent above 2005. Net placements were 1.59 million. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 325 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 334 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 505 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 495 thousand.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.71 million, 7 percent above 2006 and 5 percent above 2005.

Other disappearance totaled 75.0 thousand during February, 3 percent above 2006, but 3 percent below 2005.

NUMBER OF CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES

State	Number On Feed February 1 a/			Placed During February		Marketed During February	
	2006	2007	2007/2006	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	346	334	97	31	24	24	28
California	550	540	98	63	60	56	67
Colorado	1,110	1,040	94	140	140	155	160
Idaho	265	255	96	32	39	38	43
Iowa	520	530	102	60	64	58	63
Kansas	2,580	2,430	94	410	395	360	380
Nebraska	2,490	2,540	102	330	360	360	380
New Mexico	146	135	92	13	14	14	18
Oklahoma	375	350	93	49	59	56	58
South Dakota	210	230	110	33	43	29	41
Texas	3,030	2,800	92	360	390	370	385
Washington	153	177	116	25	25	22	31
Other States	335	365	109	42	46	60	57
UNITED STATES	12,110	11,726	97	1,588	1,659	1,602	1,711
State	Other Disappearance During February b/		Number On Feed March 1 a/		2007/2006		
	2006	2007	2006	2007			
	1,000 Head				Percent		
Arizona	2	1	351	329	94		
California	7	3	550	530	96		
Colorado	5	10	1,090	1,010	93		
Idaho	4	1	255	250	98		
Iowa	2	1	520	530	102		
Kansas	20	25	2,610	2,420	93		
Nebraska	10	10	2,450	2,510	102		
New Mexico	2	1	143	130	91		
Oklahoma	3	1	365	350	96		
South Dakota	4	2	210	230	110		
Texas	10	15	3,010	2,790	93		
Washington	2	1	154	170	110		
Other States	2	4	315	350	111		
UNITED STATES	73	75	12,023	11,599	96		

a/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

b/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS FOR CALIFORNIA AND U.S. ^{1/}

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2006	January 2007	Feb. 15, 2007	February 2006	January 2007	Feb. 15, 2007
		<i>Dollars</i>					
All Hay, Baled ^{2/} ^{3/}	Ton	130.00	116.00	127.00	95.80	112.00	114.00
Alfalfa, Baled ^{2/} ^{3/}	Ton	136.00	125.00	135.00	98.40	115.00	117.00
Hogs ^{2/} ^{4/}	Cwt.	---	---	---	42.60	42.70	46.60
Cows ^{2/}	Cwt.	46.80	40.60	40.00	49.50	44.40	46.50
Steers and Heifers ^{2/}	Cwt.	94.80	88.90	88.70	97.60	89.80	90.70
Calves ^{2/}	Cwt.	131.00	106.00	100.00	143.00	115.00	115.00
Sheep ^{2/}	Cwt.	48.50	43.00	---	45.90	37.10	---
Lambs ^{2/}	Cwt.	86.50	87.50	---	97.80	96.50	---
Milk Cows ^{5/}	Head	---	1,600.00	---	---	1,660.00	---
Milk Wholesale ^{2/}	Cwt.	11.72	12.94	13.50	13.50	14.50	14.70

^{1/} The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

^{2/} Previous month revised to monthly average.

^{3/} California's February 2007 prices are for the full month.

^{4/} Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

^{5/} Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

CALIFORNIA HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 34 PERCENT

California's 2006 honey production, at 19.8 million pounds, was 34 percent below 2005. Producing colonies totaled 380 thousand, down 5 percent from the previous year. The yield per colony averaged 52 pounds, compared to 75 pounds produced per colony in 2005.



U.S. HONEY PRODUCTION DOWN 11 PERCENT

Honey production in 2006 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 155 million pounds, down 11 percent from 2005. There were 2.39 million colonies producing honey in 2006, down 1 percent from 2005. The yield per colony averaged 64.7 pounds, down 11 percent from the 72.4 pounds in 2005. Colonies, which produced honey in more than one State, were counted in each State where the honey was produced, therefore yields per colony may be understated. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 60.5 million pounds on December 15, 2006, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude stocks held under the commodity loan program.

U.S. HONEY PRICES UP 14 PERCENT

Honey prices increased during 2006 to 104.2 cents, up 14 percent from 91.8 cents in 2005. Prices are based on retail sales by producers and sales to private processors and cooperatives. State-level honey prices reflect the portions of honey sold through retail, co-op, and private channels. Honey prices for each color class are derived by weighting quantities sold for each marketing channel. Honey prices for 2006 were up from the previous year for all color class totals.

HONEY PRODUCTION FOR TOP FIVE STATES AND U.S. ^{1/}

State	Number of Colonies		Yield Per Colony		Production		Average Price Per Pound ^{2/}		Value of Production	
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Colonies</i>		<i>Pounds</i>		<i>1,000 Pounds</i>		<i>Cents</i>		<i>\$1,000</i>	
California	400	380	75	52	30,000	19,760	84	98	25,200	19,365
Florida	160	170	86	81	13,760	13,770	86	101	11,834	13,908
Montana	130	132	67	79	8,710	10,428	83	100	7,229	10,428
N. Dakota	370	350	91	74	33,670	25,900	82	90	27,609	23,310
S. Dakota	220	225	79	47	17,380	10,575	79	82	13,730	8,672
UNITED STATES ^{3/}	2,413	2,392	72	65	174,818	154,846	92	104	160,428	161,314

^{1/} For producers with five or more colonies. Revised 2005 data.

^{2/} Prices weighted by sales.

^{3/} Total colonies multiplied by total yield may not exactly equal production.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during February 2007 totaled 132 million pounds (dressed weight), 11 percent below the previous month, but 15 percent above February 2006. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In February 2007, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,355 pounds; calves 136 pounds; and hogs 236 pounds.

U. S. PORK PRODUCTION AT RECORD HIGH FOR FEBRUARY

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.62 billion pounds in February, up 4 percent from the 3.49 billion pounds produced in February 2006.

Beef production, at 1.95 billion pounds, was 7 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.56 million head, up 9 percent from February 2006. The average live weight, down 10 pounds from the previous year, was 1,274 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.2 million pounds, 7 percent above February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 66.9 thousand head, up 27 percent from February 2006. The average live weight was down 50 pounds from last year to 307 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.64 billion pounds, down slightly from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.12 million head, down slightly February 2006. The average live weight, at 269 pounds, was down 2 pounds from the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.4 million pounds, was down 2 percent from February 2006. Sheep slaughter totaled 204 thousand head, 1 percent above last year. The average live weight was 140 pounds, down 4 pounds from February a year ago.

January to February 2007 commercial red meat production was 7.7 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2006. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, veal was up 14 percent, pork was up 2 percent, but lamb and mutton production was down 5 percent.

February 2006 and 2007 both contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 2006-07 ^{a/}

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2006	2007	2006	2007	2006	2007
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	105.6	126.6	141,792	168,420	1,372	1,355
U.S.	2,346.6	2,561.7	3,000,905	3,250,650	1,284	1,274
CALVES						
California	6.7	9.9	1,011	1,341	151	136
U.S.	52.7	66.9	18,693	20,401	357	307
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S.	202.2	204.4	29,162	28,631	144	140
HOGS						
California	190.2	204.1	45,774	48,101	241	236
U.S.	8,055.6	8,117.0	2,183,590	2,183,691	271	269
RED MEAT						
	February 2006	January 2007	February 2007	Feb. 07 Feb. 06	Feb. 07 Jan. 07	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	114.6	148.4	131.7	115	89	
U.S.	3,489.9	4,092.3	3,615.6	104	88	

^{a/} Includes slaughter under Federal-inspection and other commercial slaughter, but excludes farm slaughter.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION IN 2006

California's production of red meat in commercial plants during 2006 totaled 1.61 billion pounds, 9 percent above last year's production of 1.47 billion pounds. The month of June 2006 had the largest red meat production with 145 million pounds.

Red meat production in commercial plants for the United States totaled 47.5 billion pounds in 2006, 4 percent above last year's production of 45.7 billion pounds. The month of August 2006 had the largest red meat production with 4.26 billion pounds.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION BY MONTH ^{1/}

Month	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	Million Pounds			
January	125.3	127.7	3,648.2	3,899.6
February	107.3	114.6	3,423.8	3,489.9
March	126.2	142.4	3,878.1	4,112.1
April	115.0	121.7	3,619.7	3,614.8
May	117.8	136.0	3,713.5	4,063.8
June	128.5	144.6	3,962.0	4,136.2
July	115.3	130.5	3,613.6	3,790.6
August	128.0	138.9	4,100.4	4,257.6
September	119.2	129.7	3,929.8	3,949.9
October	121.9	142.5	3,925.1	4,197.2
November	129.9	137.7	3,942.7	4,151.4
December	134.6	141.5	3,953.6	3,874.5
TOTAL ^{2/}	1,469.1	1,607.6	45,710.5	47,537.3

^{1/} Includes total beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton, but excludes farm slaughter.

^{2/} Totals based on unrounded data and may not equal sum of parts.

NUMBER OF LICENSED DAIRY OPERATIONS IN SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES ^{1/}

State	2005	2006
	Number	
California	1,970	1,960
Indiana	1,830	1,750
Iowa	2,370	2,230
Michigan	2,590	2,530
Minnesota	5,530	5,295
New York	6,430	5,970
Ohio	3,610	3,530
Pennsylvania	8,700	8,610
Wisconsin	15,100	14,640
Other States	16,410	15,475
UNITED STATES	64,540	61,990

^{1/} Average number of dairy farms licensed to sell milk, based on counts collected from State and other regulatory agencies.

MARKETING-YEAR AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
		2005	2006	2005	2006
		Dollars			
Hogs	Cwt.	50.70	47.90	50.20	46.00
Cows ^{1/}	Cwt.	48.50	44.20	51.70	46.60
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	90.80	89.30	94.30	92.30
Calves	Cwt.	121.00	118.00	135.00	133.00
Sheep	Cwt.	41.00	31.40	45.10	35.20
Lambs	Cwt.	98.90	84.00	110.00	95.50
Milk Cows ^{2/}	Head	1,780.00	1,630.00	1,770.00	1,730.00

^{1/} Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

^{2/} Calendar year average.

FARM NUMBERS

In 2006, an estimated 76.0 thousand farms operated on 26.3 million acres in California. The average farm size is 346 acres. The number of farms and land in farms both decreased by 1 percent from 2005.

The number of farms in the United States in 2006 is estimated at 2.09 million, 0.4 percent fewer than in 2005. Total land in farms, at 932.4 million acres, decreased 780 thousand acres, or 0.08 percent, from 2005. The average farm size was 446 acres during 2006, an increase of one acre from the previous year.

NUMBER OF FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS 1/

Area and Item		2005	2006
CALIFORNIA	Number of Farms	76,500	76,000
	Land in Farms (<i>1,000 Acres</i>)	26,400	26,300
	Average Size of Farms (<i>Acres</i>)	345	346
UNITED STATES	Number of Farms	2,098,690	2,089,790
	Land in Farms (<i>1,000 Acres</i>)	933,210	932,430
	Average Size of Farms (<i>Acres</i>)	445	446

1/ A farm is any establishment from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were sold or would normally be sold during the year.

TROUT (12" or longer) AND CATFISH SALES, CALIFORNIA AND UNITED STATES, 2005-06 1/

Type of Fish and Area	Number Of Fish		Live Weight				Average Price Per Pound		Total Sales	
			Average Per Fish		Total					
	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Fish		Pounds		1,000 Pounds		Dollars		\$1,000	
TROUT										
California	2,020	1,630	1.2	1.2	2,450	2,000	2.17	2.50	5,317	5,000
U.S. 2/	55,513	49,229	1.1	1.2	59,714	61,534	1.05	1.10	62,660	67,745
CATFISH										
California	1,720	1,680	1.8	1.8	3,180	3,050	2.26	2.34	7,187	7,137
U.S. 2/	405,410	368,660	1.6	1.6	638,885	583,580	0.70	0.77	450,178	452,084

1/ Revised 2005 data.

2/ U.S. totals were from a 20-State total for trout and an 11-State total for catfish.